

**COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2025**

MINUTE ORDER NO. 10

SUBJECT: AUTHORIZE ACCEPTANCE OF TITLE V MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH BLOCK GRANT ALLOCATION INCLUDING THE PERINATAL EQUITY INITIATIVE ALLOCATION FROM THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH (DISTRICTS: ALL)

OVERVIEW

The San Diego County Board of Supervisors (Board) has supported improving birth outcomes and reducing infant mortality for over two decades through the approval of the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) Maternal, Child, and Adolescent Health Division Title V Maternal and Child Health Block Grant (Title V MCH Block Grant) funding. Most recently, on June 28, 2022 (10), the Board authorized allocation agreements for three years to accept MCH funding.

The Title V MCH Block Grant funding addresses health and birth equity through a number of initiatives including the Black Infant Health (BIH) program in San Diego County, which was established over 35 years ago. The 2018-19 California State Budget Act established the California Perinatal Equity Initiative (PEI) to expand the BIH program to improve birth outcomes and reduce mortality in Black infants through evidence-based interventions. Counties that implement BIH programs were eligible to receive PEI State General Funds. On September 24, 2024 (3), the Board approved the acceptance of the PEI allocation in the amount of \$484,310 for the period of July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025.

Today's actions request the Board authorize the acceptance of Title V MCH Block Grant funding from the CDPH for \$320,491 and the acceptance of the PEI State General Fund allocation of \$484,310 to support State-mandated Maternal, Child, and Family Health Services programs designed to improve the health of mothers, infants, children, adolescents, and their families. Additionally, today's actions request the Board to authorize the execution of all required grant documents, and the application for additional funds to help improve health equity for San Diego County residents.

Today's actions support the County of San Diego vision of a just, sustainable, and resilient future for all, specifically those communities and populations in San Diego County that have been historically left behind, as well as our ongoing commitment to the regional *Live Well San Diego* vision of healthy, safe, and thriving communities. This will be accomplished by improving access to quality healthcare for mothers, infants, children, adolescents, and families.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

1. Waive Board Policy B-29, Fees, Grants, and Revenue Contracts-Department Responsibility for Cost Recovery, which requires prior approval of grant applications and full-cost recovery of grants.

2. Authorize the acceptance of \$320,491 in allocation funds from the California Department of Public Health, Maternal, Child, and Adolescent Health Division for Title V Maternal and Child Health Block Grant for the period of July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026, and authorize the Chief Administrative Officer or designee, to execute all required grant documents, including any annual extensions, amendments, and/or revisions thereto that do not materially impact or alter the services or funding level.
3. Authorize the acceptance of \$484,310 in allocation funds from the California Department of Public Health, Maternal, Child, and Adolescent Health Division for the period of July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026, for the Perinatal Equity Initiative allocation and authorize the Chief Administrative Officer or designee, to execute all required grant documents, including any annual extensions, amendments, and/or revisions thereto that do not materially impact or alter the services or funding level.
4. Authorize the Chief Administrative Officer or designee, to apply for any additional funding opportunity announcements, if available, to address preventive health care and early intervention and treatment programs for at-risk women, infants, children, and families in San Diego County.

EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT

The County of San Diego Health and Human Services Agency, Public Health Services administers Maternal, Child, and Adolescent Health (MCAH) programs and the Perinatal Equity Initiative (PEI) to reduce perinatal morbidity and mortality among disadvantaged populations.

Infant mortality is an important indicator of overall population health. It is a product of social well-being, disease rates, access to healthcare, economic development, and general living conditions. Prematurity and low birthweight are among the leading causes of infant death and are also associated with illness and disability in survivors. In 2022, compared to other race/ethnic groups, infants of African-American women had the highest mortality rate in the nation. In San Diego County, averaging 2020-2022, mortality rates were about six times higher among African Americans than Caucasians. In addition, Hispanics and African-Americans are more likely to have Medi-Cal as their expected principal payor for delivery.

The MCAH and PEI programs work to address inequities in maternal and infant health outcomes to ensure access to quality prenatal and postpartum health care, community resources, and family support services through community partnerships and collaborations. In addition, the PEI program offers individual, family, and group-based support and hosts community advisory board meetings that are attended by stakeholders, health care professionals and providers, as well as community residents, with lived experience. Attendees offer guidance and insight into the needs of families served by the programs.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT

Today's proposed actions support the County of San Diego (County) Sustainability Goal #1 to engage the community; Sustainability Goal #2 to provide just and equitable access; and Sustainability Goal #4 to protect the health and well-being of everyone in the region. This will be accomplished by ensuring vulnerable populations in all communities are given access to resources provided by the Maternal, Child, and Adolescent Health program efforts and the Perinatal Equity Initiative (PEI), and engaging with and seeking community input through the Black Infant Health (BIH)-PEI Community Advisory Board and the Family Support Connection collaborative.

FISCAL IMPACT

Recommendation #2: Accept Title V Maternal and Child Health Services Block Grant Funding
Funds for this request are included in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2025-27 Operational Plan in the Health and Human Services Agency. If approved, today's actions will result in estimated costs of \$1,860,676 and revenue of \$774,657 (\$320,491 Title V Maternal and Child Health Services Block Grant and \$454,166 estimated Title XIX) in FY 2025-26. The funding sources are the Title V Maternal and Child Health Services Block Grant and Title XIX. A waiver of Board Policy B-29 is requested because the funding does not offset all costs. These unrecovered costs are estimated at \$1,086,019, which includes the matching requirement, the Title XIX component. The funding source for these costs will be existing Realignment. The public benefit for providing these services far outweighs the B-29 unrecoverable costs. There will be no change in net General Fund costs and no additional staff years.

Recommendation #3: Accept Perinatal Equity Initiative State General Funds Grant

Funds for this request are included in the FY 2025-27 Operational Plan in the Health and Human Services Agency. If approved, today's actions will result in estimated costs of \$961,885 and revenue of \$671,081 (\$484,310 Perinatal Equity Initiative State General Funds Grant and \$186,771 estimated Title XIX) in FY 2025-26. The funding sources are the Perinatal Equity Initiative State General Funds Grant from the California Department of Public Health and Title XIX. A waiver of Board Policy B-29 is requested because the funding does not offset all costs. These unrecovered costs are estimated to be \$290,804, which includes the matching requirement, the Title XIX component. The funding source for these costs will be existing Realignment, General Fund, and Tobacco Settlement funds. The public benefit for providing these services far outweighs the B-29 unrecoverable costs. There will be no change in net General Fund costs and no additional staff years.

BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT

N/A

ACTION:

ON MOTION of Supervisor Aguirre, seconded by Supervisor Desmond, the Board of Supervisors took action as recommended, on Consent.

AYES: Aguirre, Anderson, Lawson-Remer, Montgomery Steppe, Desmond

State of California)
County of San Diego) §

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of the Original entered in the Minutes of the Board of Supervisors.

ANDREW POTTER
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors



Signed
by Andrew Potter



OCTOBER 21, 2025